

CBS News Poll – February 26-28, 2025

Adults in the U.S.



Sample 2,311 Adults in the U.S.
 Margin of Error ±2.5 points

10. Do you think the policies of the Trump administration generally...

Favor the wealthy	55%
Favor the middle class	10%
Favor the poor	1%
Treat everyone about equally	33%

15. Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Increased	Decreased	Kept same
Medicare	59%	11%	30%
Medicaid	49%	17%	34%
Social Security	65%	8%	27%
Education	56%	19%	25%
Defense	40%	24%	36%
Border/Immigration enforcement	48%	19%	32%
Foreign aid	16%	52%	32%

16. Do you favor or oppose Congress extending the 2017 federal tax cuts?

Favor	62%
Oppose	38%

17. In general, which comes closer to how congressional Republicans should approach working with Donald Trump now? Should congressional Republicans:

Support whatever Donald Trump wants	21%
Support Donald Trump's policies when they agree, but push back when they disagree ...	79%

18. In general, do you want to see congressional Democrats try to compromise and find common ground with Donald Trump, or do you want to see congressional Democrats try to oppose Donald Trump as much as possible?

Common ground	65%
Oppose	35%

19. Which of these should have the most authority to decide how the U.S. government spends money?

The president	26%
Congress	63%
The courts	11%

20. In general, if a court rules against Donald Trump on an executive action, should he...

Follow the court's ruling	57%
Appeal the court's ruling	35%
Ignore the court and take the action	7%

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42. Which of the following are important for you to hear about in Donald Trump's speech? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Lowering prices	70%
Plans for Medicare and Medicaid	58%
Cutting taxes	53%
The federal budget	53%
Cutting government spending	50%
Energy, gas and oil policy	46%
Deporting those illegally in the U.S.	46%
Tariffs on other countries	39%
Dealing with international crises	37%
Reducing the federal workforce	37%
His views on what congressional Republicans should do	19%
The events of January 6th, 2021	17%
His views on what congressional Democrats should do	16%

* Questions held for future release.

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10. Trump Policies Favored Class

Do you think the policies of the Trump administration generally...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Favor the wealthy	55%	49%	60%	55%	57%	53%	56%	90%	58%	19%
Favor the middle class	10%	12%	9%	10%	15%	9%	7%	5%	11%	15%
Favor the poor	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Treat everyone about equally	33%	38%	29%	33%	26%	37%	37%	4%	30%	64%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,308)	(1,122)	(1,186)	(485)	(582)	(752)	(489)	(564)	(804)	(716)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Favor the wealthy	55%	86%	60%	21%	48%	68%	62%	44%	55%
Favor the middle class	10%	5%	9%	16%	11%	7%	11%	11%	12%
Favor the poor	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Treat everyone about equally	33%	8%	30%	61%	39%	23%	25%	44%	32%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,308)	(711)	(720)	(762)	(1,449)	(288)	(371)	(900)	(549)

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15A. Federal Spending Levels — Medicare

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	59%	53%	64%	61%	53%	57%	66%	75%	56%	48%
Decreased	11%	14%	8%	17%	13%	9%	5%	7%	11%	15%
Kept same	30%	33%	28%	22%	33%	34%	29%	18%	33%	37%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,302)	(1,119)	(1,183)	(483)	(580)	(750)	(489)	(563)	(803)	(712)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	59%	72%	57%	48%	57%	73%	54%	58%	55%
Decreased	11%	7%	11%	15%	11%	6%	14%	12%	9%
Kept same	30%	21%	32%	37%	32%	21%	31%	29%	35%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,302)	(710)	(720)	(757)	(1,446)	(284)	(371)	(897)	(549)

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15B. Federal Spending Levels — Medicaid

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	49%	46%	53%	60%	50%	48%	41%	71%	48%	30%
Decreased	17%	20%	14%	19%	17%	15%	18%	8%	15%	29%
Kept same	34%	34%	33%	21%	33%	37%	41%	21%	37%	40%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,305)	(1,125)	(1,181)	(483)	(583)	(752)	(487)	(562)	(806)	(714)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	49%	69%	45%	34%	45%	67%	51%	45%	44%
Decreased	17%	8%	18%	26%	19%	8%	18%	19%	18%
Kept same	34%	23%	37%	40%	36%	25%	31%	36%	37%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,305)	(709)	(721)	(762)	(1,445)	(288)	(371)	(896)	(549)

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15C. Federal Spending Levels — Social Security

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	65%	60%	69%	61%	56%	68%	73%	74%	62%	59%
Decreased	8%	10%	6%	12%	12%	6%	3%	7%	7%	11%
Kept same	27%	30%	25%	27%	32%	26%	24%	19%	31%	30%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,300)	(1,119)	(1,181)	(482)	(580)	(750)	(487)	(559)	(804)	(712)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	65%	72%	61%	61%	64%	75%	63%	67%	58%
Decreased	8%	7%	8%	9%	7%	6%	12%	6%	7%
Kept same	27%	20%	31%	30%	29%	19%	25%	26%	34%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,300)	(706)	(721)	(757)	(1,441)	(287)	(370)	(895)	(546)

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15D. Federal Spending Levels — Education

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	56%	53%	58%	67%	59%	50%	50%	80%	56%	35%
Decreased	19%	24%	14%	12%	16%	21%	24%	6%	15%	37%
Kept same	25%	23%	28%	20%	25%	29%	26%	14%	29%	28%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,308)	(1,125)	(1,184)	(485)	(583)	(752)	(489)	(564)	(806)	(714)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	56%	75%	52%	40%	51%	75%	61%	48%	55%
Decreased	19%	7%	21%	30%	22%	4%	17%	21%	24%
Kept same	25%	18%	27%	30%	27%	21%	22%	31%	21%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,308)	(711)	(721)	(762)	(1,448)	(288)	(371)	(897)	(551)

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15E. Federal Spending Levels — Defense

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	40%	41%	38%	42%	34%	38%	47%	19%	38%	60%
Decreased	24%	28%	21%	23%	30%	24%	18%	45%	21%	14%
Kept same	36%	31%	41%	35%	36%	38%	35%	36%	41%	26%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,305)	(1,122)	(1,183)	(485)	(583)	(749)	(489)	(564)	(805)	(711)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	40%	25%	34%	59%	41%	41%	34%	47%	32%
Decreased	24%	32%	31%	11%	26%	16%	20%	20%	36%
Kept same	36%	43%	35%	30%	33%	43%	46%	33%	31%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,305)	(710)	(721)	(759)	(1,445)	(288)	(371)	(896)	(549)

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15F. Federal Spending Levels — Border/Immigration enforcement

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	48%	52%	45%	40%	44%	52%	55%	20%	46%	78%
Decreased	19%	18%	20%	25%	21%	18%	14%	37%	18%	8%
Kept same	32%	30%	34%	35%	35%	30%	30%	43%	36%	14%
Totals	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,307)	(1,124)	(1,183)	(485)	(583)	(751)	(488)	(563)	(805)	(714)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	48%	25%	45%	76%	53%	35%	42%	57%	45%
Decreased	19%	30%	20%	8%	18%	25%	19%	14%	25%
Kept same	32%	45%	34%	16%	29%	40%	39%	29%	30%
Totals	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,307)	(710)	(720)	(762)	(1,447)	(288)	(371)	(896)	(550)

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15G. Federal Spending Levels — Foreign aid

Would you like to see federal spending on these items...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increased	16%	15%	16%	26%	16%	12%	12%	32%	13%	5%
Decreased	52%	56%	48%	39%	52%	58%	54%	21%	49%	81%
Kept same	32%	29%	36%	35%	32%	30%	34%	47%	38%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,307)	(1,125)	(1,183)	(485)	(583)	(751)	(489)	(563)	(805)	(714)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increased	16%	25%	13%	9%	15%	19%	15%	12%	19%
Decreased	52%	25%	54%	76%	56%	34%	51%	62%	46%
Kept same	32%	49%	32%	15%	29%	47%	34%	26%	35%
Totals	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,307)	(709)	(721)	(762)	(1,448)	(287)	(371)	(897)	(551)

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16. Extending 2017 Tax Cuts

Do you favor or oppose Congress extending the 2017 federal tax cuts?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Favor	62%	63%	61%	53%	62%	66%	65%	30%	64%	85%
Oppose	38%	37%	39%	47%	38%	34%	35%	70%	36%	15%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,263)	(1,107)	(1,156)	(472)	(573)	(740)	(478)	(549)	(786)	(707)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Favor	62%	39%	60%	86%	65%	54%	61%	70%	57%
Oppose	38%	61%	40%	14%	35%	46%	39%	30%	43%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,263)	(698)	(708)	(747)	(1,422)	(283)	(366)	(877)	(545)

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17. Congressional Republicans and Trump

In general, which comes closer to how congressional Republicans should approach working with Donald Trump now? Should congressional Republicans:

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Support whatever Donald Trump wants	21%	25%	18%	21%	19%	23%	20%	9%	18%	35%
Support Donald Trump's policies when they agree, but push back when they disagree	79%	75%	82%	79%	81%	77%	80%	91%	82%	65%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,286)	(1,115)	(1,172)	(477)	(575)	(748)	(486)	(559)	(797)	(713)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Support whatever Donald Trump wants	21%	10%	16%	35%	23%	14%	18%	26%	19%
Support Donald Trump's policies when they agree, but push back when they disagree	79%	90%	84%	65%	77%	86%	82%	74%	81%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,286)	(703)	(713)	(760)	(1,438)	(281)	(368)	(889)	(549)

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18. Congressional Democrats Compromise with Trump

In general, do you want to see congressional Democrats try to compromise and find common ground with Donald Trump, or do you want to see congressional Democrats try to oppose Donald Trump as much as possible?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Common ground	65%	68%	61%	62%	63%	66%	67%	26%	72%	88%
Oppose	35%	32%	39%	38%	37%	34%	33%	74%	28%	12%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,294)	(1,118)	(1,176)	(476)	(580)	(750)	(489)	(563)	(801)	(711)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Common ground	65%	36%	67%	88%	68%	58%	65%	73%	60%
Oppose	35%	64%	33%	12%	32%	42%	35%	27%	40%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,294)	(709)	(714)	(760)	(1,442)	(284)	(367)	(891)	(551)

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19. Most Authority to Decide How Federal Government Spends Money

Which of these should have the most authority to decide how the U.S. government spends money?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
The president	26%	26%	27%	30%	26%	26%	23%	6%	23%	45%
Congress	63%	65%	60%	50%	61%	66%	72%	82%	65%	50%
The courts	11%	9%	13%	20%	13%	8%	5%	12%	12%	5%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,289)	(1,122)	(1,167)	(478)	(583)	(744)	(484)	(560)	(800)	(704)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
The president	26%	7%	21%	48%	29%	16%	23%	35%	20%
Congress	63%	79%	67%	45%	62%	67%	58%	55%	75%
The courts	11%	14%	12%	6%	8%	17%	19%	10%	5%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,289)	(710)	(716)	(750)	(1,437)	(287)	(370)	(888)	(549)

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20. Trump Action on Negative Court Ruling

In general, if a court rules against Donald Trump on an executive action, should he...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Follow the court's ruling	57%	51%	63%	59%	59%	55%	56%	90%	62%	25%
Appeal the court's ruling	35%	41%	30%	32%	31%	39%	39%	8%	31%	63%
Ignore the court and take the action	7%	8%	7%	9%	10%	6%	5%	2%	7%	12%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,304)	(1,123)	(1,181)	(482)	(582)	(752)	(488)	(562)	(806)	(714)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Follow the court's ruling	57%	87%	60%	27%	52%	73%	61%	46%	62%
Appeal the court's ruling	35%	11%	35%	59%	40%	24%	31%	45%	31%
Ignore the court and take the action	7%	2%	5%	14%	8%	3%	8%	9%	7%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,304)	(711)	(718)	(763)	(1,445)	(288)	(370)	(895)	(550)

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42. Important to Hear in Trump Address to Congress

Which of the following are important for you to hear about in Donald Trump's speech? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Lowering prices	70%	68%	71%	61%	66%	73%	76%	59%	71%	75%
Plans for Medicare and Medicaid	58%	52%	63%	46%	48%	59%	77%	61%	57%	57%
Cutting taxes	53%	53%	53%	46%	47%	58%	59%	36%	51%	70%
The federal budget	53%	55%	51%	44%	45%	58%	63%	39%	50%	71%
Cutting government spending	50%	52%	47%	38%	44%	56%	59%	24%	46%	79%
Energy, gas and oil policy	46%	50%	43%	40%	38%	47%	61%	28%	47%	63%
Deporting those illegally in the U.S.	46%	47%	45%	36%	39%	52%	56%	22%	41%	76%
Tariffs on other countries	39%	41%	37%	30%	34%	42%	48%	29%	39%	50%
Dealing with international crises	37%	41%	33%	34%	35%	36%	45%	35%	38%	44%
Reducing the federal workforce	37%	42%	33%	27%	32%	41%	47%	23%	32%	59%
His views on what congressional Republicans should do	19%	23%	16%	21%	19%	17%	21%	18%	18%	24%
The events of January 6th, 2021	17%	18%	15%	15%	14%	17%	21%	24%	15%	13%
His views on what congressional Democrats should do	16%	18%	14%	17%	16%	14%	15%	14%	15%	17%
Weighted N	(2,311)	(1,125)	(1,186)	(485)	(583)	(753)	(489)	(564)	(806)	(716)

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	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Lowering prices	70%	63%	71%	74%	70%	67%	71%	74%	62%
Plans for Medicare and Medicaid	58%	63%	56%	56%	57%	62%	53%	59%	53%
Cutting taxes	53%	39%	51%	69%	54%	53%	51%	56%	51%
The federal budget	53%	41%	52%	68%	55%	48%	48%	54%	56%
Cutting government spending	50%	25%	52%	74%	54%	38%	41%	57%	50%
Energy, gas and oil policy	46%	32%	48%	58%	48%	45%	40%	52%	42%
Deporting those illegally in the U.S.	46%	27%	40%	74%	50%	35%	40%	54%	44%
Tariffs on other countries	39%	31%	39%	48%	40%	33%	41%	41%	38%
Dealing with international crises	37%	32%	43%	41%	40%	33%	26%	37%	46%
Reducing the federal workforce	37%	23%	34%	55%	41%	28%	28%	41%	41%
His views on what congressional Republicans should do	19%	17%	17%	24%	20%	18%	16%	23%	16%
The events of January 6th, 2021	17%	22%	17%	13%	15%	23%	16%	15%	15%
His views on what congressional Democrats should do	16%	15%	16%	16%	16%	16%	14%	16%	15%
Weighted N	(2,311)	(711)	(721)	(764)	(1,451)	(288)	(371)	(900)	(551)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 2,311 adults in the U.S. was conducted between February 26-28, 2025.

This sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, and education based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, and 2024 Presidential vote. Respondents were selected to be representative of adults nationwide. The weights range from 0.1 to 5.7, with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.7.

The *margin of error* (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the entire sample is approximately ± 2.5 points. It is calculated using the formula

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + CV^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.